

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended)An inventory control system ~~having a function of a supply chain planning system for planning various sorts of plans,~~ comprising:

demand predicting means for calculating a predicted value of a demand based on past actual demand information;

actual value ~~calculating-retrieval~~ means for ~~calculating-retrieving~~ an actual value of demand which is compared with the predicted demand value;

predicted remainder calculating means for calculating a predicted reminder which is a difference between the predicted demand value and the actual value;

parameter calculating means for calculating a parameter such as standard deviation by employing the predicted remainder;

safety stock calculating means for calculating safety stock based upon said parameter; ~~data storage means for storing therein data which is used in a calculation; and~~

input means for accepting setting or updating of a setting value such as a planning cycle; and at least one of a procurement lead time; and a plan lead time; and

data storage means for storing therein in time sequence the respective setting values and the actual demand information at every unit time period from past time to present time, wherein:

wherein upon receipt of updating of the setting value, via the input means, such as said planning cycle, and at least one of said procurement lead time; and said plan lead time, data of an area, which is different from data read when the plan is made, is read from said data storage means into said demand predicting means, said actual value calculating means, said predicted remainder calculating means, said safety stock calculating means, and said parameter calculating means so as to execute various sorts of calculating process operation either one time or plural times the demand predicting means calculates planned demand value of a second past time period based on an actual demand value of a first past time period stored in the data storage means,

wherein the actual value retrieval means retrieves and totalizes actual demand values corresponding to the second past time period stored in the data storage means,

wherein the predicted remainder calculating means calculates a predicted remainder which is a difference between the planned demand value of the second past time period and the actual demand value of the second past time period,-

wherein a process is performed in which the demand predicting means calculates a planned demand value of a third past time period stored in the data storage means which is difference from the first past time period, the actual value retrieval means retrieves and totalizes actual demand value corresponding to the fourth past time period, and the predicted remainder calculating means calculates a predicted reminder from the planned demand

value of the fourth past time period and the actual demand value of the fourth past time period to obtain a new sample of the predicted reminder,

wherein the process is repeatedly performed as for different past time periods until a desired number of the processes is obtained,

wherein the parameter calculating means calculates a standard deviation based on a plurality of the samples of the predicted reminders obtained by the repeated calculation, and

wherein the safety stock calculating means calculates a safety stock based upon the standard deviation and the updated setting value to update a current safety stock.

2. (original) In an inventory control system in which a planning cycle corresponding to a time period for establishing a plan, a plan lead time corresponding to a time period defined after the plan has been established until the plan is executed, and a setting value such as a procurement lead time corresponding to a time period defined from an order up to a shipment are contained in a parameter; and based upon both an actual value for a predetermined time period and a predicted demand for said predetermined time period, safety stock at a time instant succeeding said predetermined time period is calculated so as to control inventory;

said inventory control system comprising:

input means for accepting updating of the setting value such as said planning cycle, said plan lead time, and said procurement lead time; and

safety stock calculating means operated in such a manner that upon receipt of updating of the setting value such as said planning cycle, said plan

lead time, and said procurement lead time from said input means, a time period to be calculated is changed in such a way that an end point of said predetermined time period becomes a past time instant with respect to a present time instant, and then, safety stock at the present time instant is calculated.

Claim 3 (canceled).

4. (original) An inventory control system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a data-source storage unit in which data employed in said various sorts of calculations are stored in a plurality of tables;

data copying/writing means for accepting a designation of a data table which is wanted to be used in said respective calculating process operations by said input means, and for writing the data of said designated table from said data-source storage unit into said data storage unit based upon a content of said accepted designation; and

fee collecting means for collecting a fee based upon a preset fee system in response to a sort of said data table.

5. (original) An inventory control system as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

fee collecting means for collecting a fee based upon a preset fee system in response to a sort of said data table; and

data reading control means for controlling to read the data of said data table designated based upon the sort of said table wanted to be used with respect to the data-source storage unit for storing thereinto said plurality of tables, wherein

said input means accepts an input of a sort of a table which is wanted to be used while a function of said inventory control system is utilized.

6. (original) An inventory control system as claimed in claim 5 wherein:

said input means accepts an input of either a designation of a record range or a designation of a data amount as to a table which is wanted to be used by a client; and

said fee collecting means collects a fee in response to information as to either said record range designation or said data amount designation.

7. (original) An inventory control system as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

a management server machine including said input means for further accepting an input of a table name which is wanted to be used when the function of said inventory control system is used, and ticket file issuing means for issuing a ticket file based upon said preset fee system in response to a sort of said table and for transmitting said issued ticket file to a client machine; and

a plurality of server machines including at least any one of said data copying/writing means and data reading control means, said data

copying/writing means copying data of a designated table from the data-source storage unit for storing thereinto said plurality of tables based upon information indicated in said ticket file, and said data reading control means for controlling to read the data of said designated table based upon the information indicated in said ticket file with respect to the data-source storage unit for storing said plurality of tables.

Claims 8-19 (canceled).

20. (new) An inventory control system according to claim 1, wherein each of the stored second and fourth past time periods is a time period substantially same as a planned range which is a sum of the planning cycle, the procurement lead time and the plan lead time.